AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 17.(Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method for treating inflammatory diseases which comprises administering an effective amount of a reducing-sugar monomer **of rhamnose or fucose**, whose hydroxyl function is substituted by an C_2-C_{40} alkoxy radical, as an active agent, to a patient in need thereof.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein, in the reducing-sugar monomer, the substituted hydroxyl function is the anomeric hydroxyl function.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the alkoxy radical comprises from 5 to 12 carbon atoms.

21.-22 (Cancelled)

23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the inflammatory disease is selected from the group consisting of allergic, inflammatory or immune reactions and pathologies of the skin and/or mucous membranes.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the inflammatory disease is due to an immune response related to inflammatory stress.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the inflammatory diseases is related to the activation of leucocytes, the secretion of keratinocytic cytokines, the keratinocytic hyperplasia phenomenon, antigen processing by the dendritic cells of the skin, the maturation of antigen-presenting cells and the recognition phenomenon between lymphocytes and antigen-presenting cells.

26. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the inflammatory disease is selected from the group consisting of atopic and/or contact eczema, inflammatory dermatoses, irritant dermatitis, acne, autoimmune diseases such as psoriasis, photo-immunosuppression, vitiligo, pityriasis, sclerodermas, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease and graft rejection.

27. (Currently Amended) A method for treating age-related chronic inflammatory problems and their consequences which comprises administering an effective amount of a reducing-sugar monomer **of rhamnose or fucose**, whose hydroxyl function is substituted by an C_2-C_{40} alkoxy radical, as an active agent, to a patient in need thereof.

28. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein the age-related chronic inflammatory problem is chosen from the group comprised of anaphylactic sensitivities, pigmentary anomalies of the skin, dermal hypervascularity and inflammatory fissuring.

29. (Currently amended) A method for reducing the allergenic and/or irritant character of a composition or perfume which comprises administering an effective amount of a reducing-sugar monomer **of rhamnose or fucose**, whose hydroxyl function is substituted by an C_2-C_{40} alkoxy radical, to a patient in need thereof.

30. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the medicament contains from 0.001% to 50% by weight of the aforementioned reducing-sugar monomer.

31. (Currently Amended) A method for the cosmetic treatment of skin and/or mucous membranes that are sensitive, irritated, intolerant, of an allergic tendency, aged, exhibiting danger signs, exhibiting a disorder of the cutaneous barrier, exhibiting cutaneous redness or exhibiting a non-pathological immunological imbalance related to intrinsic, extrinsic or hormonal aging, wherein it consists of applying to the skin and/or the mucous membranes a composition comprised of at least one reducing-sugar monomer **of rhamnose or fucose** whose hydroxyl function, is substituted by an alkoxy radical at C_2-C_{40}, as an active agent.

32. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 31, wherein the hydroxyl function, which is substituted by a C_2-C_{40} alkoxy radical, is the anomeric hydroxyl function.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 31, wherein the alkoxy radical comprises from 5 to 12 carbon atoms.

35. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic treatment method to slow the ~~natural aging of the skin~~ **accelerated** aging of skin **which is caused by** ~~subjected to~~ external attacks, wherein it consists of applying to the skin a composition comprised of at least one reducing-sugar monomer **of rhamnose or fucose** whose hydroxyl function, is substituted by an alkoxy radical at C_2-C_{40}, as an active agent.

36. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 35, wherein the hydroxyl function, which is substituted by a C_2-C_{40} alkoxy radical, is the anomeric hydroxyl function.

37. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein the medicament contains from 0.001% to 50% by weight of the aforementioned reducing-sugar monomer.

38. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 29, wherein the medicament contains from 0.001% to 50% by weight of the aforementioned reducing-sugar monomer.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 35, wherein the alkoxy radical comprises from 5 to 12 carbon atoms.

41. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein the ~~natural~~ accelerated aging of the skin is photo-induced aging.